LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes of the meeting held on April 18, 2023

A meeting of the Lower Paxton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Henry on the above date at the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Supervisors present, in addition to Mr. Henry, were Robin Lindsey, Norman Zoumas, Chris Judd, and Paul W. Navarro. Also in attendance were Bradley Gotshall, Township Manager; Samuel Miller, Assistant Township Manager; Nick Gehret, Planning & Zoning Officer; and Steve Stine, Township Solicitor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Lindsey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Lindsey motioned to approve the business meeting minutes held on February 21, 2023. Mr. Zoumas seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

Announcements

Mr. Henry announced that the Supervisors had met in executive session before the meeting and would meet again afterward.

Public Comment

Tim Murphy, 1524 Pine Hollow Rd, thanked the Supervisors and staff for their involvement in the recent acquisition of the Spangler tract on the top of Blue Mountain, which will connect Hocker Park with The Boyd Big Tree Preserve. He noted that the park needs improvements, such as parking and the overall appearance.

Michael Daley, 5893 Shope Place, requested an update on the stormwater and sewer projects, namely the project at Devonshire Heights Rd and Fairmont Drive. Mr. Gotshall explained that he expects the contractor to remove the detour on Fairmont Drive around the first week of May; however, the Township is not involved in the project on Locust Lane as it is a state road. The Locust bridge has been closed after being inspected by the Township's Public Works Department staff and engineers. This bridge is missing from Dauphin County's list to be replaced now.

Chairman and Board Members' Comments

Mrs. Lindsey announced that the Central Pennsylvania Conservation District received a grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), which contributed to the recent acquisition of the Spangler tract on the top of Blue Mountain, which will connect Hocker Park with The Boyd Big Tree Preserve.

On Saturday, April 15, 2023, the Supervisors attended a celebration hosted by the Township's Fire Companies. She thanked all the volunteers for their contributions to the Township. Afterward, the Supervisors were invited to the Central Dauphin School District Pan Ram NutriPack Program celebration to honor volunteers, alums of Central Dauphin School District, and the students who acquired scholarships. She and Mr. Zoumas attended the Capital Region Council of Governments meeting. The Township will celebrate Arbor Day at Heroes Grove on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, starting at 1:30 p.m. The Kite Festival is scheduled for Sunday, April 30, 2023, at Lingle Park.

Manager's Report

There was none.

Mrs. Lindsey stated that not one of the haulers included the manual collection service in their Bids, and residents have leftover bag tags. She asked Mr. Washok if residents would receive a refund. Mr. Gotshall explained that he spoke with Waste Management representatives, who will reimburse the Township for unused bag tags. After all the details are worked out, the Township and Penn Waste will inform residents how to return their bag tags.

Mrs. Lindsey asked Mr. Washok if residents could use brown bags and their containers to dispose of yard waste. Mr. Washok explained that residents could use their containers if they don't place a lid on the containers; the yard waste must be visible.

Public Comment

Dan Crum, Fire Chief, Linglestown Fire Company, 6151 Blue Ridge Ave., stated that he does not have much space between the white line at the road and the grass in front of his home. He requested that Mr. Washok note his address for future discussions.

Charles Hoke, 6131 Bluestone Ave., asked Mr. Henry if the hauler offers pay-by-bag service. Mr. Henry explained that a pay-by-bag service would not be available because not one of the haulers had bid on that service. Mr. Hoke said he couldn't believe there weren't enough people in the Township using the pay-by-bag service, and that he would have to pay more if he wasn't using the service. Mrs. Lindsey interjected, noting that Mr. Gotshall informed her that 667 residents out of 15,000 currently use the pay-by-bag service. Mr. Henry added that the problem is that none of the haulers bid on that service; he noted that Mr. Gotshall notified over 30 haulers of the Bid proposal, and just three haulers bid on the service.

Mr. Navarro noted that he is all too familiar with the challenges some senior citizens face regarding their medical insurance, especially the first year after they retire. He wants to ensure that people can pay for their prescriptions. Discussion followed.